

✓ Page 13, line 12, "gearing" to -- gear mechanism- -;

✓ Page 13, line 13, after "arrow B", insert -- as --.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-3, without prejudice. Add the following new claims.

✓ 4. A loading mechanism for loading a video cassette into a play position in a video cassette deck comprising:

a door having an opening for receiving said video cassette;

a cassette holder, for holding said video cassette at an initial position, and for moving said video cassette between said initial position and a play position while holding said video cassette;

A a slide arm capable of sliding in parallel to an insertion direction of said video cassette;

a holder drive gear for driving said cassette holder via a gear mechanism so said cassette holder is positioned in the initial position when said slide arm is positioned at a first position, and is positioned in said play position when said slide arm is positioned at a second position; and

a door arm for driving said door in accordance with movement of said slide arm, so that when said slide arm slides from said second position toward said first position, said door arm opens said door while said slide arm slides from the first position towards a third position which is arranged between said first and second positions, and said holder drive gear starts to drive said

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cassette holder from said play position towards said initial position after said slide arm passes said third position.

2 5. The loading mechanism as set forth in claim 4, wherein said slide arm includes a cam mechanism for driving said door arm between an open position at which said door is opened and a closed position at which said door is closed, and

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said cam mechanism driving said door arm from said closed position toward said opened position while said slide arm slides from said second position toward said third position.

3 6. The loading mechanism as set forth in claim 4, wherein said gear mechanism includes a rack portion formed on said slide arm and a pinion portion formed on said holder drive gear to engage with said rack portion, and

said rack portion and said pinion portion being disengaged while said slide arm is positioned between said second and said third positions.

4 7. The loading mechanism as set forth in claim 5, wherein said gear mechanism includes a rack portion formed on said slide arm and a pinion portion formed on said holder drive gear to engage with said rack portion, and

said rack portion and said pinion portion are disengaged while said slide arm is positioned between said second and said third positions.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Amend Fig. 7 of the drawings to label same as "Prior Art" in accordance